Three suffocate in Manshera plaza room

By Our Correspondent

MANSEHRA: Three people were found dead in one of the rooms of a plaza on the Abbottabad Road in Channia area here on Friday evening, the police said.

They said fumes from an electric generator, which the deceased had kept switched on to brave the severest cold when they went to sleep, probably led to their death, according to a statement issued by the police.

The statement said that the bodies were shifted to King Abdullah Teaching Hospital.

According to the police, the deceased were identified as Naeem Gul, Waqas Zareen and Zeeshan Siddique.

Two killed in Kohat road accident

By Our Correspondent

KOHAT: Two persons were killed and 13 others injured in a head-on collision between a passenger coach and a bus of Federal Constabulary near the Pak-Japan Friendship Tunnel on the Indus Highway here on Friday.

Rescue 11212 responded to the call from the control room and shifted the bodies and the wounded persons to the KDA Divisional Hospital.

The deceased were identified as Wisal from Karak district and a 45-year-old woman, whose name could not be ascertained.

The injured included Ms Alif, Ms Durdana, Khan Zaman, Ghani Shah, Jamshed from Tank district, Haleem Khan from Kohat, Amir Nawaz, and Babar Naseem from Peshawar, Usman and Mansoor Khan from Karak district, Sher Alam and Kahlid from South Waziristan, and Asif from Lakki Marwat district.

Meanwhile, in a joint operation the security forces, the Counter-Terrorism Department and the police on Friday seized a huge quantity of explosives and other items from a house in Sheikhan village here.

Acting on a tip-off, the personnel of the security forces and the police conducted a raid at a hideout.

However, the terrorists managed to escape before the raid taking advantage of darkness.

District police officer Shehbaz Elahi said that they recovered two improvised explosive devices, communication gadgets, hand grenades, detonators, prima card, three laptops, and medical kits which were to be used in terrorist attacks.

He said that the gang was planning an attack inside a farmhouse, adjacent to the tribal division of Darra Adamkhel.

Earlier, three most wanted terrorists, involved in the murders of policemen in Darra Adamkhel, were killed in the same area.

Terrorism can't be eliminated through military actions alone: Aimal

ANP leader calls for return of displaced people to their homes

By Our Correspondent

ANP chief Aimal Wali Khan addresses a public gathering at Farooq-i-Azam Chowk, Charsadda, on Friday. — Dawn

CHARSADDA: Awami National Party central president Aimal Wali Khan on Friday reiterated opposition to military operations and demanded the immediate return of displaced people to their homes.

"Terrorism can't be eliminated through military operations alone," Mr Aimal told a function held here to mark death anniversaries of Khudai Khidmatgar Movement founder Bacha Khan and Wali Khan here.

Thousands of ANP workers and supporters attended the event.

ANP senior vice president and former chief minister Ameer Haider Khan Hoti, provincial president Mian Iftikhar Hussain, district president Shakeel Bashir Khan Umarzai and other leaders also addressed the gathering.

Mr Aimal said Pakhtuns in Khyber tribal district, especially Tirah Valley, were helpless. He demanded action against those who labeled terrorism as "jihad" as well as strict punishment for facilitators of terrorists.

He accused former army chief retired Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, former ISI chief retired Lt-Gen Faiz Hameed, former president Arif Alvi and PTI founder Imran Khan of bringing terrorists back to the country. He said his party wanted restoration of peace in the province.

The ANP leader opposed the federal government's move tojoin the Gaza Board of Peace and said national issues should be addressed on priority.

He said the Palestine issue should be resolved according to the will of the Palestinian people.

Mr Aimal said trade with India continued but the border with Afghanistan had been closed to the misery of Pakhtuns.

He insisted that border closure had failed to check terrorism. He demanded the immediate reopening of all trade routes with Afghanistan.

Declaring the Feb 8, 2024, general elections controversial, the ANP leader said electoral rigging defeated his party.

He said despite bringing in a parliament of its own choice, powers-that-be were unable to take decisions.

"A few individuals continue to control everything in the country," he said.

Mr Aimal said the time was not far when people would become the true centre of power in the country.

He said that the ANP would oppose and resist every step taken to weaken democracy.

The ANP leader said if 18-year-olds could obtain ID cards and driving licences andpay tax, they should be given the right to vote in general elections.

He said the Pakhtuns had contributed the most to national development and that their development was directly linked to a stable, prosperous Pakistan.

Mr Aimal demanded elimination of terrorism from Pakhtun areas and the provision of education and employment opportunities to residents.

He said that in future, voting for ANP wasn't enough and instead, the party workers should protect votes polled as well.

Earlier, Mr Aimal told Dawn that bringing undocumented Afghan citizens to Pakistan was a wrong decision.

"First, our state declared Afghan nationals in the country refugees but later, they're called mujahideen, students and then Taliban. Now. they're terrorists in our state's eyes," he said.

The ANP leader rejected the forced repatriation of Afghans from the country as a "wrong" move. He said Pakistan suffered losses in proxy wars; those brought in were celebrated, and billions of dollars were earned in their name, but today, it was paying the price for those flawed policies.

On Afghanistan and regional affairs, Mr Aimal said Pak-Afghan relations were deteriorating, while Afghanistan's ties with India were improving, which was an alarming development for Pakistan.

"This is essentially a conflict among major global powers. On one side is the US and Israel, while Russia and China are on the other. Pakistan and Iran are being turned into battlefields," he said.

Criticising the PTI government over "wrong" policies and lack of focus, the ANP leader said the chief minister wasn't bothered about province's issues and had failed to resolve people's problems.

He said the chief minister was only concerned about his position and the detention of PTI founder Imran Khan's release from jail.

Tehreek-i-Insaf govt consented to Tirah operation, claims PML-N

Dr Ibadullah accuses provincial govt of 'effectively facilitating, supporting' terrorists

By Ali Hazrat Bacha

PESHAWAR: Opposition Leader in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Dr Ibadullah Khan has accused the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister and his ministers of misleading people by opposing the Tirah operation and insisted that the military offensive against militants was approved by the PTI's government in the province.

"After consenting to the Tirah operation, the PTI government and leadership is singing a different tune," Dr Ibadullah told reporters at the Peshawar Press Club on Friday.

He claimed that unlike the PML-N-led federal government, the provincial government released Rs4 billion for the Tirah operation.

The opposition leader said that if the PTI government suggested an alternative to the military offensive, the centre was ready to consider it.

He also alleged that instead of opposing terrorism, the KP government was "effectively facilitating and supporting" terrorists.

Dr Ibadullah said that when the Taliban took control of Afghanistan in 2021, the then ISI chief, Lt-Gen Faiz Hameed, immediately went to Kabul, raising serious questions.

He said that after the Army Public School massacre in 2014, political leaders who had hurled abuses against opponents were brought to the table by the then prime minister, Nawaz Sharif, to discuss peace and all political parties were taken on board to implement the National Action Plan.

"Those who undermined that plan are today openly backing terrorists," he said.

The opposition leader claimed that former prime minister Imran Khan had openly proposed ministerial slots and offices in Pakistan to the Taliban.

He alleged that corruption was rampant in the province, while public mandate was being openly mocked.

Dr Ibadullah criticised PTI politics, insisting it revolves around verbal abuses and baseless allegations.

He said the province had already received Rs10 trillion from the centre under the National Finance Commission Award.

The opposition leader said that PM Imran Khan's government passed several federal budgets but didn't grant due share in funds to the province, with the provincial government led by his own party opting to remain silent.

He added that funds received under the war on terror weren't spent on the counter-terrorism department, police reforms and development projects.

Dr Ibadullah said the province didn't have a proper CTD and a forensic laboratory, forcing it to rely on Punjab's such facilities.

He wondered whether those questioning the Feb 8 polls had delivered the goods after securing a public mandate in the province.

The opposition leader claimed that not a single primary school had been built in the province during the last 13 years, while other provinces had made tangible socioeconomic progress.

"Not a single university, hospital or basic health unit has been established in these many years, leaving the province to lag behind," he said.

Dr Ibadullah criticised the chief minister for touring other provinces instead of addressing the law and order issues in his own province and questioned if the public mandate was meant for "street politics."

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Khyber Pakhtunkhwa general secretary Murtaza Javed Abbasi, who was also present, said while wheat was rotting in warehouses of the province instead of being released for people's consumption, the PTI government was using all its resources for securing PTI founder Imran Khan's release from jail.

He alleged that development was nowhere to be seen in the province and that public resources were being used against the federal government.

Mr Abbasi accused the provincial leadership of supporting militants and refusing to participate in peace jirgas.

He said neither police reforms had been carried out nor had public issues been resolved.

The PML-N leader criticised the chief minister for "repeatedly blocking roads for hours" during visits to other cities and called it a violation of the law and an attempt to stage political shows to impress party leadership.

He said while soldiers, police and security personnel were sacrificing their lives, the provincial government backed terrorists.

Mr Abbasi alleged that the PTI government was directly involved in the wheat scandal and other corruption cases and that cheap wheat was purchased at higher rates by authorities to make money.

12 S. Waziristan cops axed for absenting duty

By Our Correspondent

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: Twelve policemen were removed from service for their prolonged absence from duty during a weekly police meeting here on Friday.

The meeting with district police officer Mohammad Tahir Shah Wazir in the chair was aimed at reinforcing discipline and improving operational efficiency within the police force.

The meeting reviewed the overall law and order situation in Lower South Waziristan, internal security challenges, police performance, public complaints and coordination among relevant institutions.

Officials said the decision to terminate the services of the absent personnel was taken in accordance with departmental rules to ensure discipline, accountability and effective policing.

Deputy commissioner Musarrat Zaman and Counter-Terrorism Department SP Gul Rauf Wazir were also present.

The participants emphasised the need for devising joint strategies to safeguard lives and property, respond promptly to security threats and reinforce the writ of the state in sensitive and remote areas.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Zaman underlined the importance of close coordination between the district administration and law enforcement agencies.

He said sustainable peace, development and public welfare could only be achieved through institutional harmony, mutual trust and shared responsibility.

LADY READING HOSPITAL- MEDICAL TEACHING INSTITUTION, PESHAWAR

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications are invited for the following Positions on contract basis:

S. No	Post	Grade	Qualification & Experience Required
01	Anesthetist	8	1. The candidate must have MBBS or equivalent qualification duly recognized by and registered with PMC/PMDC. 2.The candidate must have DA or MCPS. 3. The candidate must have Valid PMC/PMDC registration.
02	Technician (Neuro Physiology)	4	1. The candidate must have BS in Relevant Technology from HEC Recognized University. 2. The candidate must have 01-year relevant experience preferably in a reputed Hospital.
03	Technician (Urodynamic & Laser Lithotripsy)	4	1. The candidate must have BS Radiology or equivalent qualification from HEC Recognized University. 2. The candidate must have 01-year relevant experience preferably in a reputed Hospital.

General Instructions;

1. Interested candidates should send prescribed job application (Available on www.lrh.edu.pk), duly filled to the following address through registered Courier Service by 09th February 2026. *However, the job advertisement at serial No 01. (Anesthetist) may be treated as "running job advertisement", till filling of the vacancies.*
2. Job Application processing fee of Rs. 1000/- (Non-Refundable) to be deposited in MCB Account No. 0847608141003952 (online), titled as "Receipt of Hospital LRH MTI" Branch code (0958). Original Deposit slip must be attached with the Job Application.
3. Job Application must be supported by the requisite credentials and shall be attested.
4. Incomplete or by hand submission of job application shall not be entertained.
5. Candidates should be eligible in all respects including qualification, & certificates before the closing date of the advertisement. Only post qualification experience will be considered.
6. Any candidate may be disqualified or excluded from interview if he/ she was;
   a. Knowingly furnishes any false information.
   b. Suppresses any information which may lead to his/ her disqualification.
   c. Submits forged/fake certificates including educational and experience etc.
7. The service of the incumbent will be governed by the Medical Teaching Institution Reform Act 2015 and its amendments made, Rules and Regulations of the Institution.
8. The prescribed quota for disabilities and minorities will be maintained as per rule.
9. Any attempt to approach or influence the selection committee will automatically disqualify the applicant the decision of the selection committee will be final subject to approval by the Board of Governors.
10. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for Test/ Interview.
11. After a final decision no correspondence regarding the process will be entertained.

Hospital Director
Address: Human Resources Department
Lady Reading Hospital Medical Teaching Institution, Peshawar
Phone: +92 91 9211430, Web: www.lrh.edu.pk

KP govt to install water meters, replace rusted pipelines in major cities

Officials say move meant to manage 'non-revenue' water

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The local government, elections and rural development department has decided to install "flow meters" in four major cities under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cities Improvement Project (KPCIP) as part of its water conservation efforts.

The department is also installing supervisory control and data acquisition systems on all tubewells and replacing rusted pipelines in Peshawar, Kohat, Abbottabad and Mingora under KPCIP, according to officials.

They told *Dawn* that the initiative was meant to manage non-revenue water, which was extracted and pumped into the system but didn't generate revenue and was largely wasted at the consumer end.

Officials said the water table in Peshawar, Kohat, Abbottabad and Mingora was under severe stress due to population growth and worsening climate impacts.

They said flow meters would help monitor consumption and control over-extraction, which in turn would reduce energy use and operational costs for Water and Sanitation Services Companies (WSSCs). Moreover, lower extraction, they added, could help slow the depletion of groundwater.

Alongside metering, KPCIP is replacing old and rusted pipelines to reduce leakages and improve drinking water quality. According to project data, 353 kilometres of pipeline are being replaced in Kohat, 577 kilometres in Mingora, 15 kilometres in Peshawar and 200 kilometres in Abbottabad.

Data obtained from WSSCs shows that groundwater levels in the four cities have been steadily declining and could fall beyond natural recharge capacity if corrective steps are not taken. As a result, utilities are struggling to meet demand, particularly during peak summer months. To reduce losses within the system and at the consumer end, authorities are modernising infrastructure through both metering and pipeline replacement, according to officials.

The data shows that water demand has already exceeded supply in major cities.

WSSC Mingora currently extracts about seven million gallons per day (MGD) against a demand of 11MGD. Similarly, WSSC Abbottabad extracts 3.5MGD while demand stands at 7MGD, a gap largely attributed to declining aquifers. The remaining demand is either met through private borewells or the provision of water tankers.

Officials at the WSSCs also said that due to over-extraction, many tubewells have gone dry, leading to a caving-in phenomenon.

A 2024 study, titled "Impact of Land Use Dynamics on Groundwater Table in Abbottabad City, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa," found that the city's built-up area expanded from 1,575.1 hectares in 2008 to 1,897.5 hectares in 2018. As a result, groundwater levels in different parts of the city are declining at rates ranging from 0.17 to 4 feet per year, the study noted.

Similarly, another study, titled "Impact of Built Environment on Groundwater Depletion in Peshawar, Pakistan," shows that between 1981 and 2017, population growth pushed daily freshwater demand from 56 million litres to more than 213 million litres, nearly quadrupling consumption.

During the same period, built-up areas expanded from 3.7 per cent to 16.27 per cent of total land, reducing infiltration by about four per cent.

"As concrete spread, recharge shrank groundwater replenishment declined from 108.75 mm per year in 1981 to 91.35 mm per year in 2014, tightening the squeeze on already stressed aquifers," the study said.